

January 2005

8th U.S. Army's

ROK Steady

2004

Year in Review

A Joint Security Area guard watches North Korean soldiers as tourists view the inside of the peace village. Approximately 150,000 visitors tour the JSA each year. Photo by Spc. Daniel J. Love.



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Various photos from the ROK Steady magazine throughout the year. *Photos by ROK Steady Staff*

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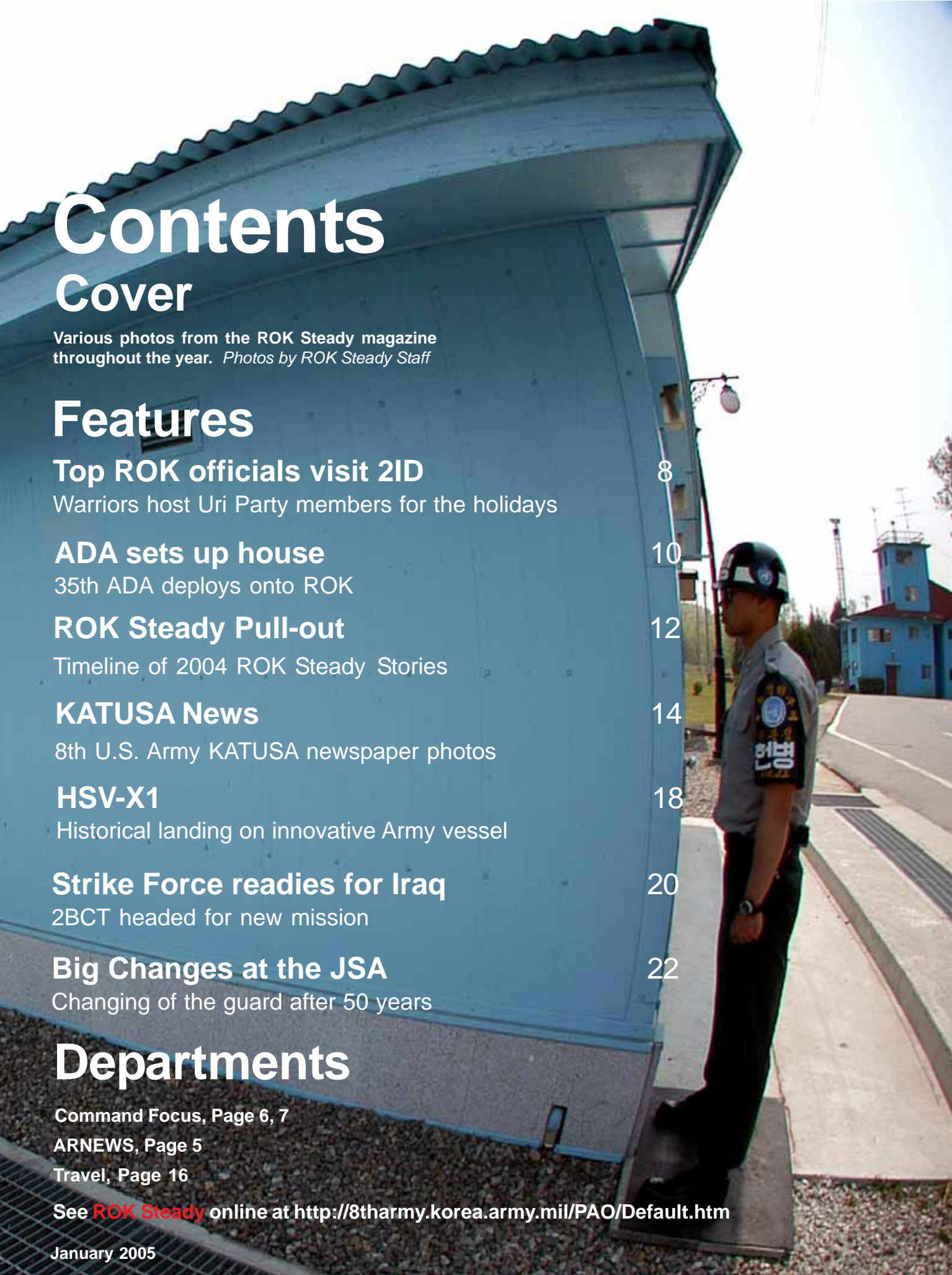
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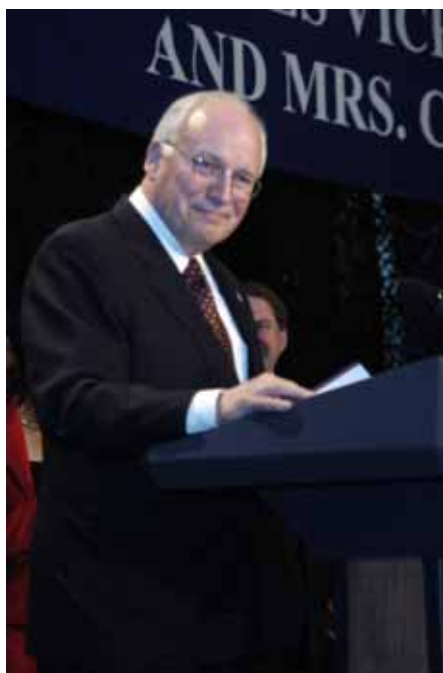
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ROK Steady

The only peninsula-wide magazine for the 8th U.S. Army Community



In 2004, several top leaders from the U.S. came to Korea to visit troops. Clockwise from top right: Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey, Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfield and Vice President Dick Cheney.

January 2005
Vol. 3, No. 1

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Deadline: 45 days prior to date of publication

ROK Steady is an authorized command information publication, published monthly for the members of 8th U.S. Army and their dependents. Distribution is 15,000 copies peninsula-wide. Contents of ROK Steady are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, USFK or 8th U.S. Army.

ROK Steady is an unofficial publication authorized under AR 360-1. Editorial content is prepared, edited, and provided by the Command Information Division of the 8th U.S. Army Public Affairs Office.

A holiday message from Army Leaders...

During this Holiday Season we honor our Soldiers for the sacrifices they make while serving our great Nation at home and throughout the world. For more than two centuries American Soldiers have preserved liberty for our citizens and our Nation's friends. Our Army has a long and proud history that predates the Republic - from the battlefields of Lexington and Bunker Hill to Shiloh and Bastogne, to Baghdad and beyond, American Soldiers have stood firm against those that would deny basic human dignity to those less fortunate.

American Soldiers continue to display unrelenting tenacity, steadfast purpose, confidence, and heroism on a daily basis, just as they have for over 229 years. No matter the place or time, our Soldiers remain the centerpiece of the Army. They are indispensable, the Army's heart and soul. As General Creighton Abrams noted three decades ago, "People are not in the Army, they are the Army." It was true then, it is true today, and it will remain true tomorrow.

Generations of young men and women have joined the ranks of America's Armed Forces. Heirs to a sacred and noble legacy, the belief that freedom is not free, they answer the call to arms and serve the Nation with courage and commitment. And they continue to add glory to the shining tradition of the American Soldier.

Our Soldiers are warriors of character, reflecting the values of the American people, and serving the greatest Nation on Earth. We pay tribute to all the American men and women who have served so faithfully during our Nation's times of danger. Through your sacrifices, you have made possible for millions of your fellow citizens the freedom, democracy, and the unmatched opportunity that we all enjoy in the United States today.

May each of you have a safe Holiday Season. God bless each of you and your families, God bless our Army, and God bless the United States of America.



Schoomaker

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter J. Schoomaker".

Peter J. Schoomaker
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff



Harvey

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Francis J. Harvey".

Francis J. Harvey
Secretary of the Army

ROK/US Alliance remains strong through 2004

By Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell
Commander, 8th U.S. Army

2005 promises to be an exciting year. This year we will begin to leave behind our current model for success and incorporate a new model that is modular in design, expeditionary in nature and upholds our “fight tonight” warrior ethos.

As agreed with our ROK Allies, we’ve successfully reduced the Soldier strength in Korea by 5,000 and will reduce it by 3,000 more by the end of 2005. These reductions, when joined by the enhanced capabilities of our forces and the new structures they will fill, mean that we must adopt new methods to accomplish our mission.

By the end of 2008, we will have reduced our strength by 11,500 Soldiers – that’s 40 percent of the total number we started with in 2004. So, we’re in for some big changes and each one of you will play a role in defining our new model for success as we move ahead.

The transformation of our forces in Korea will enhance our ability to deter north Korea, and our ability to be successful if deterrence fails. By

the time we complete the transformation and define the new organizations, we will have taken one successful paradigm that has served us so well in Korea for half a century and replaced it with a new, equally successful paradigm. We are, in essence, creating the new force structure that will secure peace on this Peninsula well into the 21st century. Now it’s our duty to get it right.

As we make this shift to a new paradigm, it’s important to understand how the opportunity to change became possible.

The capabilities of the ROK military have increased markedly. Their military possesses more F-16 fighter aircraft, they are mechanizing their 11th Division and they are introducing Aegis cruisers to their Navy. Because our ROK Allies have a well led, well trained and highly capable force, they enable our Army to transform while fully engaged in the Global War on Terrorism. The ROK-U.S. Alliance is truly a team of teams.

Changing to a new paradigm is also possible because the capabilities

of the U.S. military have also increased. Some of that capability recently arrived to Korea in the form of defensive PAC-3 Patriot missiles. Under

the command and control of the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, the PAC-3 increases the number of missiles from 4 to 16 per launcher. There will be other significant changes in 2005. The 2nd Infantry Division along with aviation and medical units in Korea will begin to assume their new modular structures. As capabilities are consolidated more capability can be redistributed throughout our Army. Amidst all these changes we will sustain the “fight tonight” quality that has served us so well and remains an operational imperative for the 8th U. S. Army.

As our Army fields more technically advanced systems and weaves the capabilities of our sister services into our defense plans, it becomes crystal clear that numbers may be important but *capabilities* are most important. The question today is not so much “what do you have?” It’s “what can you *do* with what you have?”

We can, and we will, keep doing what we’ve done for over 50 years — deter aggression. In 2005 we will begin to implement new methods that will re-define how we perform this vital mission. How we define it will serve us well into the 21st Century and by doing this correctly we will help the entire U.S. Army adapt to fight and win the Global War on Terrorism. The opportunity is upon us. It is important work and we’ve been called upon to do it. Pacific Victors!



Campbell



Spc. Daniel Love

ROK Soldiers move forward toward their objective after exiting a U.S. aircraft during joint air assault training Nov. 10 in the Chungcheongbuk province.

Adjusting to changes in a changing environment

By Command Sgt. Maj. Troy J. Welch
Command Sergeant Major, 8th U.S. Army

As we begin a new year, I want to commend you all for the outstanding job performance. You display an exemplary level of execution that I have come to expect from you. There were many changes and, as true professionals, you remained flexible and motivated to execute the mission. I expected nothing less and look forward to getting back to the business at hand in the months to come.

We have another high OPTEMPO year ahead and with that will come more changes,

We will execute two important peninsula-wide exercises: RSOI and UFL.

I expect all NCOs to continue to train our Soldiers on their missions as we gear up for these events.

These milestones are right around the corner and both NCOs and junior Soldiers will be heavily involved in these preparations—I encourage you to remain flexible.

I charge each NCO to make sure that their Soldiers are trained in both their technical and tactical duties as we head into these upcoming exercises.

Most importantly, I expect the NCOs to ensure that

their Soldiers adhere to the new laws put out by the command as well as the Korean laws that are already in place.

There have been many changes over the last year and leaders must ensure their Soldiers are well aware of these changes in order to comply with them. Knowledge is our best defense.

Failure to follow the laws set in place can only end with negative results.

These changes have been made to protect the Soldiers and their families as well as strengthen our U.S./Korean relations on the Peninsula.

I recommend that NCOs not only encourage their Soldiers to take a look at the current policies but that they themselves review and identify all the changes in order to focus on what's right.

Let's remember our mission statement and why we are here. Failure to follow the laws put into place not only hinders our careers but hinders that mission and your well being. Our policies are here for your safety and they apply to everyone. **THIS MEANS YOU!**



Welch



Spc. Daniel Love

A 17th Avn. Brigade Soldier is tested in reassembly of an M2 mounted weapon during the 17th Avn. HHC Warrior Challenge Dec. 2. Soldiers also practiced with the M9 pistol and the M16 during the event.

ROK National Assembly visits Soldiers during the holidays

by Pfc. Michael Noggle
Staff Writer



Pfc. Michael Noggle

Members from the Republic of Korea's National Assembly visited with Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Casey, Dec. 22.

The Uri Party wanted to visit and to show their appreciation to the U.S. servicemembers who serve and assist in the defense of South Korea.

Gen. Leon J. LaPorte, Commanding General of United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea accompanied the party throughout the day, as they received a command brief from the leaders of 2ID and a demonstration of the Close Combat Tactical Trainer simulators. The CCTT simulators are the newest technology being used by the U.S. Army. Soldiers can train more efficiently and conduct training in a timely and safe manner.

"In order for any military, ROK or U.S., a unit must train in order to be efficient," said LaPorte. "We are trying to be sensitive to the Korean people by spending money on simulators so that they will allow us to not bring our tanks and Bradleys out on the roads."

While many of the members from the National Assembly were intrigued by the demonstrations, they had many questions on the mission of U.S. servicemembers in Korea,



Staff Sgt. Douglas Mitchell



Staff Sgt. Douglas Mitchell

(Top) Officials from the ROK Uri Party, visited and dined with 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers. The members from the National Assembly wanted to show their appreciation for all the U.S. Servicemembers have done to defend the ROK. (Middle) The Honorable Ahn, Young-keun, gives the 'thumbs up' to signal he is ready for departure. The visitors were airlifted from Yongsan to Camp Casey. (Bottom) The Honorable Yoo, Jay-kun, Chairman for the National Defense Committee, enjoys the demonstration he received on the Close Combat Tactical Trainer from a 2nd Infantry Division Soldier.

(Page 20, Top) The Honorable Jay Kun-yoo, a member of the Republic of Korea National Assembly, and Gen. Leon J. Laporte, Commanding General of United Nations Command Combined Forces Command and United States Forces Korea, are welcomed by leaders from 2ID. (Page 20, Right) A Soldier from 2ID explains his working environment to the honorable Kim, Myung-ja, Uri Party Member.

human trafficking laws, thoughts on anti-Americanism protestors and what actions are taken when a training accident occurs.

LaPorte responded by saying the mission for U.S. servicemembers is to remain ready to fight tonight. With the new CCTT simulators, the Soldiers will be able to train in a safe environment.

Other USFK leaders stated that USFK has strict laws for human trafficking offenders and that it will not be tolerated.

They also emphasized the fact that many of the U.S. servicemembers are involved in the Good Neighbor Program and stressed the importance of establishing a good relationship with the community.

The Honorable Lee, Boo-yong, Chairman of the URI Party, expressed his deepest gratitude to the Soldiers defending the ROK and appreciation for their efforts as the country moves forward.

"The alliance will continue to grow," said Lee. "Just as it has for the past 60 years."



Staff Sgt. Douglas Mitchell



Staff Sgt. Douglas Mitchell

35th ADA Brigade positions for peninsula protection

by Pfc. Michael Noggle
Staff Writer



Staff Sgt. Mark Enders

The U.S. and Republic of Korea Alliance gained an additional defensive asset as 8th U.S. Army welcomed the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, adding another layer of Patriot missile protection against possible threats to the peninsula.

Following the 30 April announcement of the upcoming deployment, construction and remodeling schedule commenced as Gwangju Air Base (ROK) and Osan Air Base were readied for the addition of the 550 Soldiers and their equipment.

Patriot missile defense systems are designed to bring down any type of enemy fire or aircraft flying in prohibited air space. The ADA currently uses both PAC-2 and PAC-3 systems, with plans to upgrade all to the PAC-3 system with its 16-rocket capability. The ROK military does not currently have their own Patriot capability.



Staff Sgt. Mark Enders



Spc. Daniel Love



Staff Sgt. Mark Enders



Staff Sgt. Mark Enders



Staff Sgt. Mark Enders

ROKS

January



8th U.S. Army Soldiers volunteer to teach English in local schools.

March

Soldiers on peninsula sign up for Assignment Incentive Program.

May

8th U.S. Army conducts annual RSOI exercise.

April

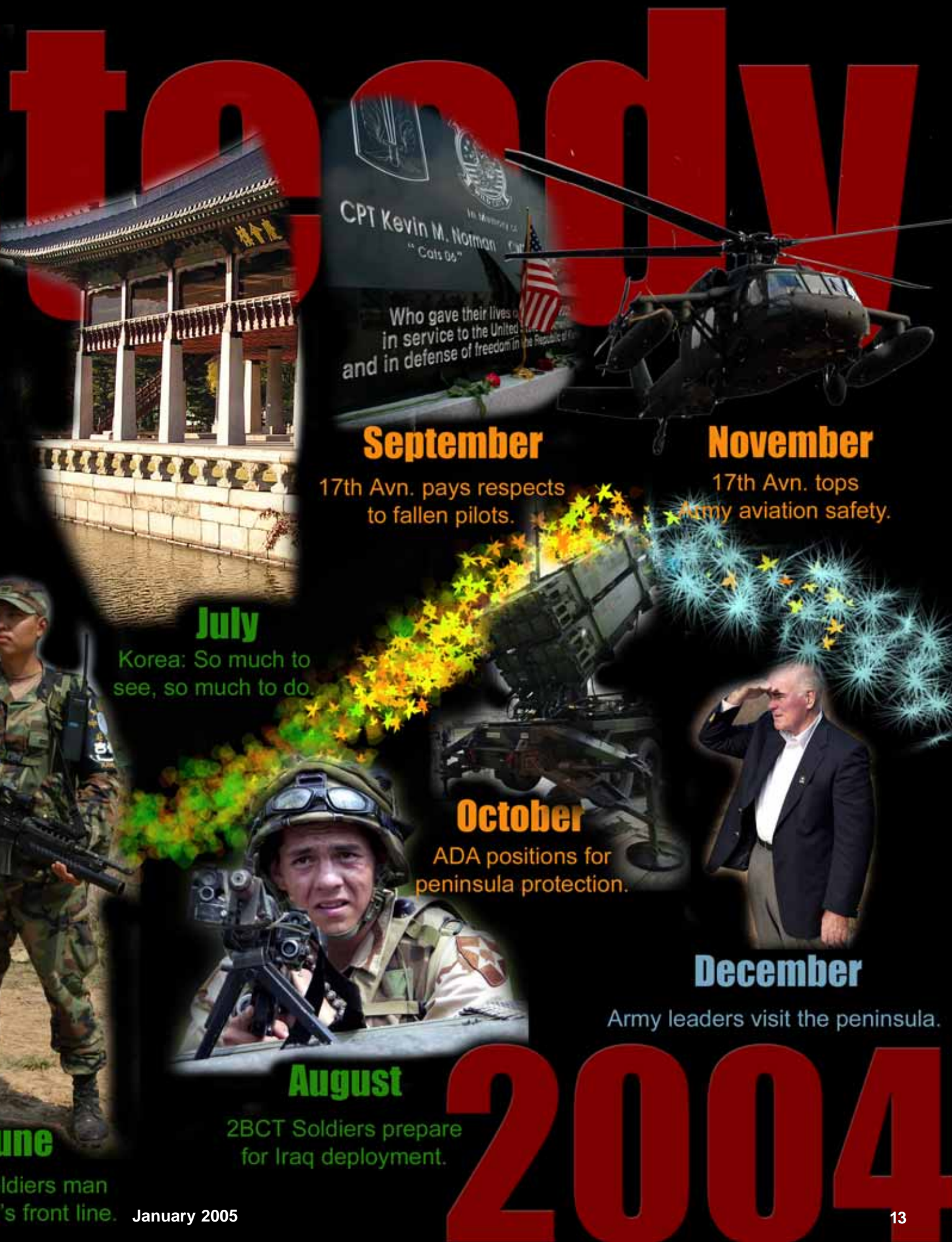
A tribute to 8th U.S. Army's old friends, the Korean Service Corps.

February

Aviation units pack Apaches for Army modernization.

ROK Steady

JSA So
freedom



CPT Kevin M. Norman
"Cats 06"

Who gave their lives
in service to the United States
and in defense of freedom in

September

17th Avn. pays respects
to fallen pilots.

November

17th Avn. tops
Army aviation safety.

July

Korea: So much to
see, so much to do.

October

ADA positions for
peninsula protection.

December

Army leaders visit the peninsula.

August

2BCT Soldiers prepare
for Iraq deployment.

June

Soldiers man
the front line.

January 2005

ROK/U.S. Alliance continues freedom's f

한미 연합의 자유 수호를 위 한 전투는 계속 됩

by Pfc. Kim, Do-ho
8th U.S. Army PAO

The 8th U.S. Army Korean Augmentation to the United States Army Soldiers not only assist U.S. Soldiers in their missions in Korea, but are friends to them as well.

The KATUSAs have supported the United States Army for many years as the ROK/U.S. Alliance now grows steadily stronger

This past year, the KATUSAs worked alongside Soldiers and introduced them to the Korean culture. Many Soldiers have learned a lot from KATUSA soldiers, but more importantly, they have gained a friend.



Courtesy Photo



KATUSA of the Year: Kim, Yoon-keun

Pfc. Shin, Hee-suk



Col. Yum, Tae-sung

fight



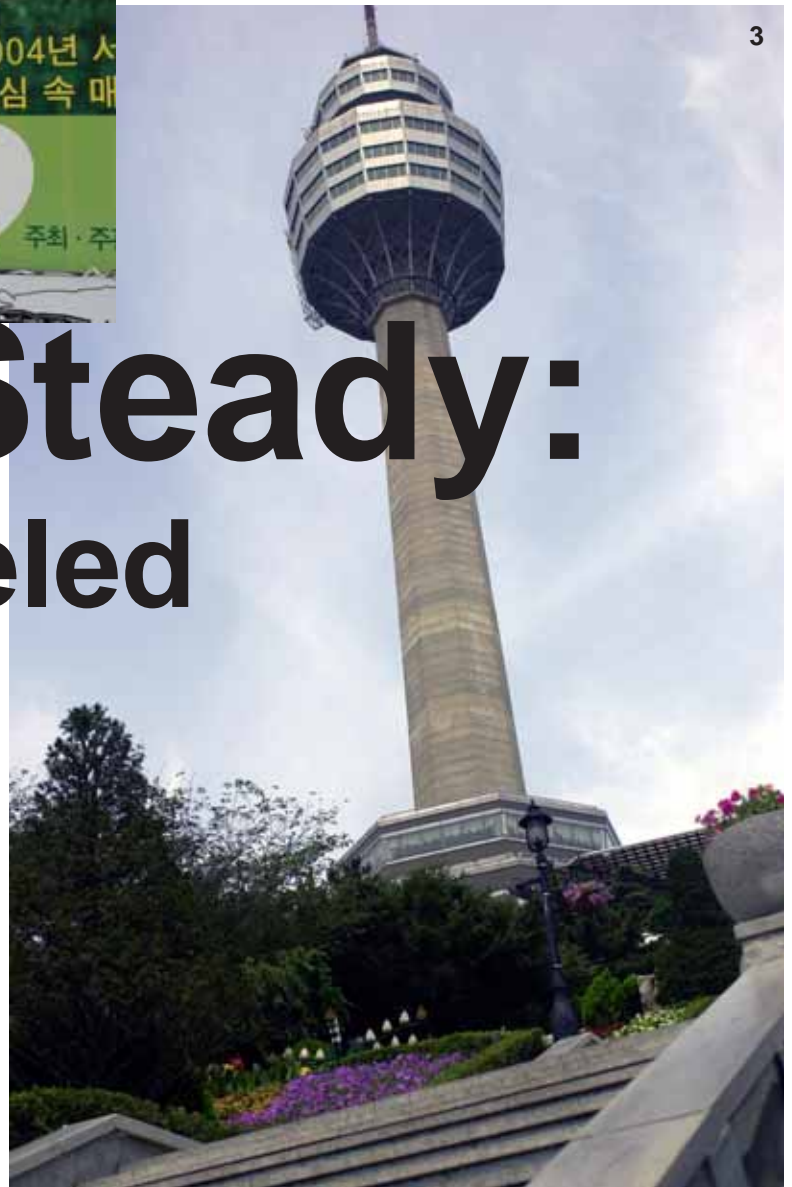
Pic. Michael Noggle



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo



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ROK Steady: Well traveled

by Spc. Daniel Love
Editor

Been traveling in Korea? If not, you've been missing a lot. There are countless interesting destinations up and down the Peninsula, each one with its own unique character.

Seeing the sights in the city nearest your residence is a good start, but to get the whole Korea experience, venture out into unfamiliar areas. This will bring travellers many perspective-changing adventures.

Every issue of the ROK Steady this year had a new travel story in a unique place. To see previous issues of ROK Steady online, go to <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil>.

performer plays a traditional drum at
 Cultural festival in Seoul. (June)
 snowboarder catches air in the half-
 at Yongpyeong ski resort. (March)
 /oobang Tower looms over central
 gu city. (September)
 night scene in Busan. (July)
 edo Island at Goejedo. (May)
 ne of the many caves in Danyang.
 vember)
 A scene from Jagalchi market in
 an. (July)
 stairway in one of the Gardens of
 angju. (October)





by Sgt. 1st Class Brian C. Sutton
8th U.S. Army PAO

Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

More than 30 years have passed since the last Army helicopter landed onboard an Army ship, but Army aviators began a new chapter in history March 25 when they landed two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters aboard a new test vessel in the West Sea.

The two helicopters offloaded passengers onto the deck of the ship, and then performed deck landing certification operations, which consists of each pilot landing on the deck of the vessel five times.

It is possible that this ship, and others like it, may find their way into the permanent inventory, which would give the Army the capability to rapidly move troops and equipment into previously inaccessible areas.



Courtesy Photo

One rope at a time

U.S., ROK Special Forces train aboard HSV

by **Sgt. 1st Class Brian C. Sutton**
8th U.S. Army PAO

U.S. and Republic of Korea Special Forces units conducted joint and combined training operations aboard an Army vessel March 25 in the West Sea.

The training occurred during an annual training exercise on the Korean peninsula known as Reception,

Staging, Onward Movement and Integration, or RSOI from March 21-29.

The Special Forces units were supported by Navy HH-60 Seahawk helicopters from USS Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier to fast rope onto the deck of a new Army ship, USAV Joint Venture X1, to perform ship boarding operations. USS Essex flight deck operations crews were onboard to provide support for the flights.





Ready to Fight Tonight, In Korea... or Iraq

Story and photos by
Pfc. Michael Noggle
Staff Writer



The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division began a new mission in the summer of 2004, as they deployed to Iraq, in support of the Global War on terrorism.

The brigade underwent intensive training in preparation for the different climate, culture and urban warfare they would face as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

This deployment marked the first time that forces from the Republic of Korea have been called upon to support operations elsewhere in the world.





JSA Soldiers continue 50-year tradition

Story and photos by
Spc. Daniel Love

Editor



For over 50 years, North Korea and South Korea have been separated by a winding line of bunkers and barbed wire manned by highly trained armed forces in a constant standoff.

Since the beginning of the armistice, elite American Soldiers had stood with their South Korean brothers at the Joint Security Area, ready to defend freedom at a moments notice.

These Soldiers endured harsh yet realistic daily

training, always honing skills in case they may have needed to use them. They didn't seem to mind that they didn't get many days off or much sleep.

During November's historic yet seamless change of responsibility, ROK soldiers took on security and base support responsibilities at the JSA. The United Nations Command retains authority over the JSA and the southern portion of the DMZ.



Extra pay in the Land of the Morning Calm

Soldiers earn up to \$400 a month for extending in Korea

**By Sgt. 1st. Class
Brian C. Sutton**
8th U.S. Army PAO

The Assignment Incentive Pay program is an additional program offered to all Soldiers serving willing to serve in Korea for an additional 12 months.

Soldiers can add \$300 per month to their paychecks for an additional 12-month tour in Korea.

All other Soldiers serving outside of Korea will have the opportunity to volunteer for this program when

they come on assignment instructions.

The program is expected to promote stability, predictability and improved readiness in Korea

With limited exceptions, all Soldiers, regardless of rank, currently stationed in Korea or on assignment instructions to Korea, can apply for the program.

One major change to this extension program is the inclusion of warrant and commissioned officers in the AIP.

Log onto the 8th PERSCOM web site at <http://www-8perscom.korea.army.mil>.

Click on the AIP link and then Frequently Asked Questions.

Korean Defense Service Medal

DOD recognizes more than 50 years of sacrifice and service

Defense Department

The Defense Department announced the creation of the Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM). The KDSM is a service medal to give special recognition for the sacrifices and contributions made by servicemembers of the U.S. armed forces who have served or are serving in the Republic of Korea.

Public Law 107-314 legislated the creation of a new medal to recognize military service in the Republic of Korea and the surrounding waters.

Members of the armed forces authorized the KDSM must have served in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the Republic of Korea, and the contiguous water out to 12 nautical miles, and all air spaces above the land and water areas.

The KDSM period of eligibility is July 28, 1954, to a future date to be determined by the secretary of defense.

Servicemembers must have been assigned, attached, or mobilized to units operating in the area of eligibility and have been physically deployed in the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days or meet one of the following criteria:

- Be engaged in actual combat during an armed

engagement, regardless of the time in the area of eligibility.

- Is wounded or injured in the line of duty and requires medical evacuation from the area of eligibility.
- While participating as a regularly assigned air crewmember flying sorties into, out of, within, or over the area of eligibility in support of military operations. Each day that one or more sorties are flown in accordance with these criteria shall count as one day toward the 30 or 60-day requirement.

- Personnel who serve in operations and exercises conducted in the area of eligibility are considered eligible for the award as long as the basic time criteria is met. Due to the extensive time period for KDSM eligibility, the nonconsecutive service period for eligibility remains cumulative throughout the entire period.

The KDSM may be awarded posthumously, and only one award of the KDSM is authorized for any individual.

More than 40,000 members of the U.S. armed forces have served in the Republic of Korea, or the waters adjacent thereto, each year since the signing of the cease-fire agreement in July 1953, which established the Demilitarized Zone. For more than 50 years, U.S. Armed Forces' efforts to deter and defend the Korean Peninsula have helped maintain democracy and preserve the indomitable spirit of freedom.



Final Frame

